

Jail-personnel vacation time
(HB 1108, by Keller)

DIGEST:

HB 1108 would have specified that jailers, jail guards, and jail matrons at any county jail in any city of more than 25,000 inhabitants would be entitled to 15 working days of vacation annually with pay. It would have removed the requirement that not more than two jailers be on vacation at the same time. Penalties for any sheriff who violated this provision would have ranged from \$10 to \$500.

GOVERNOR'S
REASONS
FOR VETO:

Some counties would not be able to afford the additional jail expenses.

SPONSOR'S
VIEW:

Rep. Keller said this was an "innocuous bill" that just clarified language in the statute. The bill corresponds to what is now common practice. He said it is absurd to require by statute that no more than two jailers at a time can go on vacation in a county the size of Dallas County.

Records kept by used-car dealers and repair shops
(HB 1133, by Gibson)

DIGEST:

This bill would have repealed the law that requires used-car dealers and repair shops to record each repair or alteration of an automobile and to record certain personal information about the car owner.

GOVERNOR'S
REASONS
FOR VETO:

The Department of Public Safety and other law enforcement agencies believe that this bill would impair the investigation and tracing of stolen vehicles.

SPONSOR'S
VIEW:

Rep. Gibson said he sponsored the bill because it would have eliminated a "silly, arcane law." The Department of Public Safety did not express any opposition to the bill until after it passed both Houses. Gibson is "extremely displeased with the Department," since it has a whole staff that deals specifically with legislation. DPS should have notified him sooner so he could have redrafted the bill. Gibson said he plans to reintroduce the bill in a future session.